

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) ~~An electrical connector for connection to a~~ for use in a host device for electrically connecting an electrical mating connector of a card, comprising:

a rigid substrate; and

a contact which is supported by said substrate,

wherein said contact makes supporting a contact for making electrical connection with a corresponding contact on the electrical mating connector of said card,

31 wherein said the contact of the electrical connector is a collapsible, resiliently deformable hollow projection, and

wherein an area between said contact and said rigid substrate is empty to permit said contact to move between a fully collapsed deformed state and a fully extended undeformed state.

2. (currently amended) ~~A~~ An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein an exterior surface of the contact is generally convex.

3. (currently amended) ~~A~~ An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said contact is generally dome-shaped.

4. (currently amended) ~~A~~ An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said contact comprises a metal.

5. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said contact comprises an insulating material treated so as to be conductive.

6. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said substrate comprises a Printed Circuit Board (PCB).

7. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein ~~the~~said PCB is flexible.

8. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said substrate supports a conductive track electrically coupled to the contact.

9. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: -including

means for retaining the mating connector of the card part in releasable contact with ~~the~~said contact of said electrical connector.

10. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said contact is secured in position on ~~the~~said substrate using solder.

11. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said electrical connector comprises a plurality of contacts.

12. (currently amended) A An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~said substrate supports a contact on each of two opposing surfaces of ~~the~~said substrate.

13. (currently amended) ~~A~~ An electrical connector as claimed in claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said electrical connector is arranged to make contact with two mating ~~parts~~ connectors arranged on ~~opposing the sides of the substrate~~ two cards.

14. (currently amended) ~~A~~ An electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said electrical connector is for use as a smart card reader

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15. (currently amended) ~~A~~ An electrical connector as claimed in claim 14, wherein the ~~smart-card~~ is a SIM card for use with a portable telephone.

16. (currently amended) An electrical ~~A~~ portable telephone comprising ~~a~~ an electrical connector according to claim 1.

17. (new): An electrical connector apparatus for use in a host device for electrically connecting an electrical mating connector of a card to said host device, comprising:

a substrate supporting a contact for making electrical connection with a corresponding contact on said electrical mating connector of said card; and

means for retaining said card including said electrical mating connector in releasable contact with said contact of said substrate,

wherein said contact of said substrate is a collapsible, resiliently deformable hollow projection, and

wherein when said card is retained in said electrical connector apparatus, a volume of said card and said electrical connector apparatus is less than a total of the volumes of said card and said electrical connector apparatus taken separately.

18. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein an exterior surface of said contact of said substrate is generally convex.

19. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said contact of said substrate is generally dome-shaped.

20. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said contact of said substrate comprises a metal.

21. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said contact of said substrate comprises an insulating material treated so as to be conductive.

22. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said substrate comprises a Printed Circuit Board (PCB).

23. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 22, wherein said PCB is flexible.

24. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said substrate supports a conductive track electrically coupled to said contact of said substrate.

25. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said means for retaining is a sliding catch operable to hold said card in a fixed location.

26. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said contact of said substrate is secured in position on said substrate using solder.

27. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said electrical connector comprises a plurality of contacts.

28. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said substrate supports a contact on each of two opposing surfaces of said substrate.

29. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said electrical mating connector is arranged to make contact with two mating connectors arranged on the sides of two cards.

30. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17,
wherein said electrical connector apparatus is a smart card reader

31. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 30,
wherein said card is a SIM card for use with a portable telephone.

21 32. (new): An electrical connector apparatus as claimed in claim 17,
wherein said host device is a portable telephone.

33. (new) A portable telephone comprising an electrical connector
apparatus as claimed in claim 17.
